

# Heard on the Left

By ALBERT SOUTHWICK

**A**ERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY, the Communist youth front that's been in a strange trance for almost three years, was officially pronounced dead and buried this week. Founded in 1943, the AYD will now give way to a Marxist-Leninist partisan youth organization.

Actually, since 1946, the AYD has been little more than a screening center and reception room for long-existent, less well-advertised "Marxist-Leninist partisan youth organizations." In the 1943-45 period, it was so effectively exposed on major college campuses that its efforts were limited to highly-vocal "win-the-war" and "get-out-the-vote" campaigns.

A good deal of the credit for exposing AYD at its outset must go to two alert student correspondents at the City College of New York: A. M. Rosenthal, then covering CCNY for the *New York Times* and now United Nations reporter for that paper, and George L. Sherry, correspondent for the *New York Herald Tribune*, now a top UN interpreter.

When leaders of the just-dissolved Young Communist League began setting up committees "to form a new democratic organization," Rosenthal and Sherry obtained strong statements from prominent New York educators blasting these moves. Newspapers across the country picked up the story. Most of the political innocents who had joined the organizing committees promptly resigned, and the CP youths had to set up AYD by themselves.

With the Duclos letter and the switch of the party line, the college Communists resumed infiltration of other organizations (chiefly veterans groups and YPCA chapters), entrusting the key jobs to individuals working independently of AYD and, it would seem, of the CP. At the same time, they devoted more attention to solidifying the out-and-out Communist cells in the schools, usually called "Marxist study clubs."

With the advent of Henry Wallace and the American Pierlinger, the AYD became a vestigial organ. It was replaced as the CP's collegiate recruiting station by Students for Wallace. The various non-AYD "independents" who had achieved power in other student organizations did not hesitate to join Students for Wallace. Of course, the AYD leadership also moved quietly in.

Last summer's reconstitution of Students for Wallace as the Young Progressives sounded taps for the AYD. There was no need for a middle organization between the Young Progressives and already-existing "Marxist-Leninist partisan youth organizations."

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98 MAR 16 1949

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NEW LEADER

Date 2-26-49  
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50 MAR 23 1949

## American Youth for Democracy Dissolving As National Group, to Build New Red Set-Up

American Youth for Democracy, young people in a spirit of devotion to the working class, the campus and community organization listed as subversive by Attorney General Tom Clark, and since its organization in 1943 the center of violent controversy at local colleges, is dissolving its national organization, it was announced yesterday.

The decision followed a referendum in which AYD clubs throughout the nation favored the founding of a Marxist youth organization in line with the program endorsed by the Communist party at its last national convention.

A statement by the national office of AYD said the former AYD clubs are continuing to function individually and are "developing varied organizational forms for Marxist education. They are co-operating locally with youth and student clubs of the Communist party and with a number of individual college and community Marxist societies."

The statement added that the clubs "are prepared to contribute effectively in the coming months toward the building of a new national organization that will lead

young people in a spirit of devotion to the working class, the democratic heritage of our country, and the goal of socialism."

A report on the program of the Communist party among the youth of the nation made at the last convention held that the dissolution of the Young Communist League in 1943 and the subsequent formation of American Youth for Democracy was an error and in fact, a product of the revisionism of Earl Browder, former head of the Communist party who unsuccessfully sought readmission to party rank.

The report recommended the organization of a non-party, independent, educational and partisan Marxist youth organization, to be Marxist-Leninist in content and direction, as the best vehicle for "the broadest anti-fascist, anti-imperialist unity" of American youth.

The new program also envisioned alignment with the recently organized Young Progressives of America and eventual assumption of its leadership to weld the group into a vote-getting agency for the Progressive party.

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62 MAR 13 1949

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# **AYD Dissolved, New Pro-Wallace Group Formed**

American Youth for Democracy, frequently under attack as a Communist front organization, was dissolved today and the national office announced plans for a new organization to gather votes for Henry A. Wallace's Progressive Party.

The subject of violent controversy at colleges throughout the United States since its organization in 1943, the A. Y. D. had been listed as subversive by Attorney General Tom Clark.

The new vote-getting group, it was announced, will be a Marxist youth organization in line with a program indorsed by the Communist party at its last national convention.

It will be, it was said, an independent, educational, and partisan league directed to "the broadest anti-Fascist, anti-imperialist unity" of American youth.

The new program, the statement said, envisions alignment with the recently organized Young Progressives of America in order to weld both groups into a vote-getting agency for the Progressive party.

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# Reds Back Wallace Youth Drive

By FREDERICK WOLTMAN,  
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

A new Youth for Wallace movement will be launched in Philadelphia July 25, at the end of the third party convention. But, somehow or other, Wallace-for-President headquarters got its invitations mixed.

It invited Students for Democratic Action to send delegates, and received a stinging rebuff.

"Your organization," SDA replied to Wallace headquarters, "can serve only as a sounding board and implement for Communist party policy within the United States, until it is abandoned by the disillusioned liberals who gave it strength."

The call for a special youth convention had gone out to scores of labor, farm, Negro, religious and student youth groups throughout the country, signed by Seymour Linfield, Wallace campaign director for youth.

## Have Big Mailing List.

It included a sponsorship list of more than 200 teen-aged and maturing Wallacites, many from Communist-led unions and other groups such as American Youth for Democracy, formerly the Young Communist League.

SDA, which found itself on the Wallace mailing list, is a division of Americans for Democratic Action, which numbers among its leaders Leon Henderson, chairman, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.,

David Dubinsky, James H. Carey, Walter P. Reuther and Ronald Reagan.

"Anyone familiar with the history of the youth movement," SDA's chairman William Shore wrote Mr. Linfield, "can trace your origins and sponsorship to the American Student Union and American Youth Congress

groups which, when the Communists won control, betrayed the high purpose of thousands of young people from the early '30s to the present day. Many of their leaders now reappear on your Wallace-Taylor organization.

"Your own name is prominent among them. For over a decade, since you attended Columbia University, your allegiances have shifted with the fluctuations of the Communist party here and abroad. You have been openly accused of Communist affiliations and have never denied them."

Although the National Wallace for President Committee is promoting the Philadelphia Youth for Wallace convention, they will not affiliate formally.

## Lend Helping Hand.

Meanwhile, according to the

Daily Worker, the Communist party "has been helping" the new Wallace youth movement and will throw its resources behind the latter for the duration of the election campaign.

In an official statement of party policy, the Worker indicated that American Youth for Democracy is to be scrapped in favor of Youth for Wallace. Then, after the election, "an independent, nonparty, Marxist-Leninist youth organization" is to be formed, presumably built around Youth for Wallace clubs.

The reason for ditching AYD is not apparent except that it seemed to fall as a training and recruiting ground for the Communist party among the nation's young people.

Sponsors of the forthcoming Youth for Wallace convention include pro-Communist State Senator Kenneth S. Herbell (ALP, Kings), James Durkin, president of the United Office Workers; the Rev. John W. Darr Jr.; Judy Holliday, the actress; Ray Lev, the pianist, and Paul Robeson Jr.

Organizations listed "for purpose of identification only" include the Wesley Foundation, Minneapolis, and Junior Achievement, Boston.

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Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
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- Miss Gandy

# Wallace Group Drafts Students

By HOWARD RUSHMORE

Students in public colleges here are being recruited by the Communist-led "Students for Wallace" group to make a coast-to-coast propaganda tour on behalf of the third party candidate it was learned today.

In a leaflet circulated in colleges here, the Wallace group appeals for "volunteers to tour U. S. for peace" and adds they will work "in key cities and farm areas between May and October."

The students who "volunteer," according to the leaflet, will canvass, put out leaflets, organize meetings, speak, write and sing to elect Wallace.

The "Students for Wallace" is officially recognized in both City and Brooklyn College. It is led largely by members of the American Youth for Democracy, an organization named as subversive by the Justice Department.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, member

of the Communist party's national committee, has officially approved the Wallace "student tours" and has said:

"It will be a valuable experience for them... students will reach millions through this bold and imaginative plan. They will carry mimeograph machines and loud speakers for meetings. People who can't go are chipping in to help finance this gigantic cross-country crusade."

*Howard*

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INDEXED - 38

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